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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dixon et al.
Appl. No.: PCT/EP00/02177
Filed: March 8, 2000
Title: FRIED PET TREATS
Art Unit: Unknown
Examiner: Unknown
Docket No.: 112701-317

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 14-17, 20-24 and 27 as follows:

A'

1. (Once Amended) A pet treat comprising
a sealed container; and
at least one piece of a formulated food product in the container, the piece comprising a
fried body of a thermally gelled matrix containing protein and starch and having a moisture
content of at least 25% by weight.

A²

4. (Once Amended) A pet treat according to claim 1 including a preservative.

5. (Once Amended) A retorted, pet treat comprising
a retortable, sealed container; and

at least one piece of a formulated food product in the container, the piece comprising a
fried body of a thermally gelled matrix containing protein and starch and having a moisture
content of above 30% by weight.

A³

7. (Once Amended) A pet treat according to claim 5 in which the fried body of
the piece comprises layers of a thermally gelled matrix containing the protein and the starch.

8. (Once Amended) A pet treat comprising a sealed container and at least one
piece of a formulated food product and a preservative in the container, the piece comprising a
fried body of a thermally gelled matrix containing protein and starch and having a moisture
content of at least 25% by weight.